*The* LIBRARY *of* CONGRESS

Information Bulletin

Vol. 63, Nos. 5-6 May-June 2004

# BROWN v. BOARD at Fifty

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# Information Bulletin

Vol. 63, No. 5-6 May-June 2004

JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

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**On the Cover:** Nettie Hunt, sitting on the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court building, explains the significance of the court's May 17, 1954, desegregation ruling to her daughter, Nikie. *Photo by UPI Tele/Files, New York World-Telegram and the Sun Newspaper Collection, Prints and Photographs Division.*

**Cover Story:** Fifty years ago the U.S. Supreme Court changed the face of schools nationwide with its landmark Brown v. Board decision, and a new Library exhibition commemorates the event. 79

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HELEN DALRYMPLE, Editor
PATRICIA REYES BACA & JOHN H. SAYERS, Designers
AUDREY FISCHER, Assignment Editor

**Correction:** *In the April 2004 issue, the photograph on page 59 should have been identified as entertainer Arthur Godfrey, not sportscaster Red Barber. We regret the error.*

Thomas J. O'Halloran

An integrated classroom in the previously all-white Barnard Elementary School in Washington, D.C., 1955

# 'Brown v. Board at Fifty'

## *When School Integration Became the Law of the Land*

By AUDREY FISCHER

*On May 17, 1954, the Supreme Court issued a decision in Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kan., declaring that "separate educational facilities are inherently unequal." This decision was pivotal to the struggle for racial desegregation in the United States. A new Library of Congress exhibition titled "'With an Even Hand': Brown v. Board at Fifty" commemorates the 50th anniversary of this landmark judicial case. The exhibition is on view through Nov. 13 in the South Gallery of the Great Hall in the Library's Thomas Jefferson Building. Funding for the exhibition and its programming have been made possible by AARP, Anthony and Beatrice Welters, and AmeriChoice, a UnitedHealth Group Company.*

History was made 50 years ago when the U.S. Supreme Court issued its landmark decision declaring racial segregation in the public schools to be unconstitutional. Just steps from where that historic decision was made, the Library of Congress recently opened an exhibition commemorating this pivotal event. Featuring more than 100 items from the Library's extensive holdings on this subject, "'With an Even Hand': Brown v. Board at Fifty" examines precedent-setting court cases that laid the groundwork for the Supreme Court's decision, explores the court's argument and the public's response to it, and closes with an overview of the effects of this profound decision.

"As the repository of the most comprehensive civil rights collection in the country, the Library of Congress is pleased to commemorate this historic milestone in the civil rights movement with an exhibition and a series of special programs," said Librarian of Congress James H. Billington.

The exhibition involved 11 staff curators, who drew on material from the Library's collections in multiple formats, such as manuscripts, rare books, legal material, photographs, political cartoons, maps and newspapers. A film compilation captures the historic events and highlights media coverage of the struggle for desegregation.

"The exhibition title quotes Robert L. Carter, one of the counsel representing the plaintiffs," explained Daun van Ee, the Library's 20th century American history specialist and one of the exhibition curators from the Manuscript Division. In his oral argument before the Supreme Court on Dec. 9, 1952, Carter argued against the constitutionality of racial segregation in public schools and stated: "It is our position that any legislative or governmental classification must fall with an even hand on all persons similarly situated."

The focus of "With an Even Hand" is the pivotal role played by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in crafting a brilliant legal argument.

"As the custodians of the NAACP Records, the Library of Congress has a unique opportunity to trace the NAACP's involvement in this case," said exhibition curator Adrienne

Cannon, the Library's Afro-American history and culture specialist in the Manuscript Division.

Comprising millions of items, the NAACP Records is the Library's largest and arguably the most heavily used collection. Yet the organization's role in the Brown decision is not commonly known or fully understood.

Beginning in 1909 a small group of activists organized and founded the NAACP. They waged a long struggle to eliminate racial discrimination and segregation from American life. By the middle of the 20th century their focus was on legal challenges to public school segregation.

"The exhibition serves as a civics lesson by demonstrating how well the NAACP's legal team understood the judicial process," said Irene Chambers, director of the Library's Interpretive Programs Office. "They persevered for decades to prove that segregation was unconstitutional."

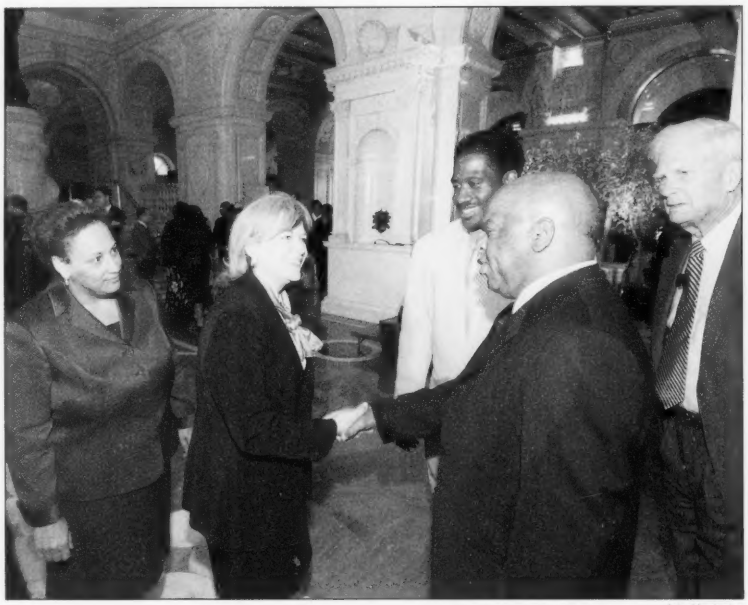
### Civil Rights-related Collections at the Library of Congress

The Library houses the most comprehensive civil rights collection in the United States.

Holdings include the original papers of the organizations that led the fight for civil liberties, such as the NAACP, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, the National Urban League, the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, led by Martin Luther King Jr. (on microfilm), the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).

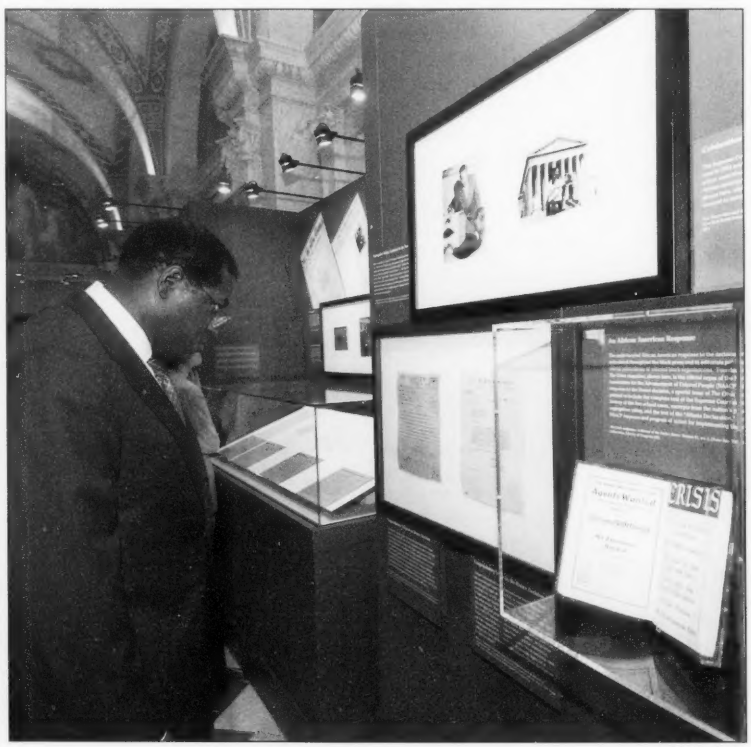
Complementing these organizational collections are the personal papers of Booker T. Washington, Frederick Douglass, Roy Wilkins, A. Philip Randolph, Bayard Rustin, Arthur Spingarn, Robert L. Carter, Moorfield Storey, Patricia Roberts Harris, Edward W. Brooke and Joseph Rauh.

The Library's holdings also include the papers of Thurgood Marshall and 38 other Supreme Court justices.



John Herrington

Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.) greets Christine Donohoo, AARP's chief communications officer, as Librarian of Congress James Billington and Chief of Staff Jo Ann Jenkins look on. AARP was a funder of the exhibition.



John Herrington

AmeriChoice President Anthony Welters, who, with his wife Beatrice, supported the "Brown v. Board at Fifty" exhibition.

### A Century of Racial Segregation, 1849-1950

By tracing the events that led up to the Brown decision, the exhibition corrects the commonly held assumption that the Brown case was the first and only case of its kind. (In Kansas alone there were 11 such cases spanning the period 1881-1949.) African American parents began to challenge racial segregation in public education as early as 1849 in the case of Roberts v. City of Boston, Mass. The plaintiff, Benjamin Roberts, sued the city when his daughter was not allowed to attend her local school. Although argued in the Massachusetts Supreme Court by the noted attorney, abolitionist and future senator Charles Sumner, the case was lost. Massachusetts Supreme Court Justice Lemuel Shaw ruled in favor of the right of the school committee to set its own education policy. On display in the exhibition, from the Library's Rare Book collection, is Sumner's 1849 argument.

After the abolition of slavery in the United States, three constitutional amendments were passed to grant newly freed African Americans legal status: the 13th amendment abolished slavery, the 14th guaranteed rights of citizenship, due process and equal protection, and the 15th guaranteed the right to vote. In spite of these amendments and civil rights acts to enforce the amendments, between 1873 and 1883 the Supreme Court handed down a series of decisions that virtually nullified the work of Congress during Reconstruction. Regarded by many as second-class citizens, African Americans were separated from whites by law and in fact in transportation, public accommodations, recreational facilities, prisons, armed forces and schools in both Northern and Southern states.

By the time Homer A. Plessy, an octoroon (one-eighth Negro blood) who lived in New Orleans, challenged that city's right to segregate public transportation by riding in a "whites only" rail car, the constitutional amendments, passed after the Civil War and written to provide protections and rights for black citizens, had been thoroughly eroded. The Louisiana state courts ruled against Plessy, and he lost his case at the highest level as well, when in 1896 the U.S. Supreme Court ruled, in the case that came to be known as H.A. Plessy v. J.H. Ferguson, that "separate but equal" facilities did not violate the U.S. Constitution's 14th amendment.

### Brown v. Board of Education Of Topeka, Kan.

The NAACP and its legal offspring, the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, developed a systematic attack against Plessy's doctrine of "separate but equal." The strategy to use the courts to challenge segregation in public education began with the NAACP under the leadership of attorney Charles Hamilton Houston during the 1930s. Houston, the former vice dean of Howard University Law School, recruited Thurgood Marshall to assist with the NAACP's legal campaign. Marshall served as a leading counsel in the Brown cases. (The opposing side was led by John W. Davis, a one-time Democratic presidential candidate and expert on constitutional law.) Houston is believed to have taken a number of the photographs on display in the Library's Brown v. Board exhibition. His images of schools for

EQUAL JUSTICE UNDER LAW
COMPLETE TEXT
OF
U.S. SUPREME COURT
SEGREGATION DECISIONS
The Henderson Case
The McLaurin Case
The Sweatt Case
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THE PITTSBURGH COURIER, PROMOTION DEPT., 205 TRIANGLE BUILDING, PITTSBURGH 22, PA.

Courtesy of the NAACP

The Pittsburgh Courier printed the complete text of the Supreme Court's 1950 decisions in three cases that weakened the structure of legalized segregation.

Courtesy of the NAACP

George W. McLaurin was required to sit apart from his fellow students in an anteroom at the University of Oklahoma, where he was pursuing a doctorate. His application had first been rejected on the grounds that state law made it illegal for blacks and whites to attend the same school, but he filed a complaint in state court and won. McLaurin, with the assistance of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, took his case to the U.S. Supreme Court. On June 5, 1950, the court ruled in favor of McLaurin and the plaintiffs in two other segregation cases, Henderson v. United States and Sweatt v. Painter.

Courtesy of the NAACP

Autherine Lucy, the first African American student to be admitted to the University of Alabama, in 1955, is accompanied by her attorneys Thurgood Marshall and Arthur Shore.

No. 41464 The City of Montgomery Recorder's Court

Dec 5 19 55

Rosa Parks

vs.

The defendant appeared in open court, in ~~com~~ proper person; the case was heard, and the defendant was found guilty and fined 10 00 dollars and cost, and in default of payment of the fine and costs was sentenced to hard labor for the City 14 days

Jno B. Scott Recorder

Appealed

I CERTIFY, That the foregoing is a correct transcript from the docket of the cause in the RECORDER'S COURT, which with the original papers in cause, I herewith transmit to your Honorable Court.

To the ~~Clerk of the Circuit Court~~ M. C. Johnson Clerk of Recorder's Court.

Courtesy of the NAACP

The arrest record of Rosa Parks, who refused to give up her seat to a white woman on a Montgomery, Ala., city bus

black students show that facilities were separate but never equal.

The legal campaign against school segregation began by targeting inequities at the graduate and professional educational levels. The attack culminated in the compilation of five separate cases originating in communities across the country—Topeka, Kan.; Farmville, Va.; Wilmington, Del.; Washington, D.C.; and Clarendon County, S.C. Representing some 200 plaintiffs, the historic Supreme Court case takes its name from Oliver Brown, the lead plaintiff in the Topeka case, whose daughter was denied access to a local white elementary school. The case was filed by Brown and 12 other parents on behalf of 20 African American children who were bused five miles and forced to walk through an unsafe railroad yard to attend school.

Aware of the gravity of the issue and concerned with the possible political and social repercussions, the U.S. Supreme Court heard the case argued on three separate occasions in as many years. The court carefully weighed considerations involving adherence to legal precedent, social science findings on the negative effects of segregation and the marked inferiority of the schools that African Americans were forced to attend.

The Supreme Court announced its unanimous decision on May 17, 1954. It held that school segregation violated the equal protection and due process clauses of the 14th amendment. The Supreme Court's decision marked the culmination of a plan the NAACP had put into action more than 40 years earlier—the end to racial inequality.

After the Brown opinion was announced, the court heard additional arguments during the following term on the decree for implementing the ruling. In a draft, prepared by Associate Justice Felix Frankfurter and subsequently adopted by Chief Justice Earl Warren, "with all deliberate speed" replaced "forthwith," which Marshall had suggested to achieve an accelerated desegregation timetable. (The draft document, including Frankfurter's handwritten change, is featured in the exhibition).

Frankfurter wanted to anchor the decree in an established doctrine, and his endorsement of it sought to advance a consensus held by the entire court. The justices thought that the decree

should provide for flexible enforcement, appeal to established principles and suggest some basic ground rules for judges of the lower courts. When it became clear that opponents of desegregation were using the doctrine to delay and avoid compliance with Brown, the court began to express reservations about the phrase.

### The Aftermath

The "deliberate speed" called for in the Supreme Court's Brown decision was quickly overshadowed by events outside the nation's courtrooms. In Montgomery, Ala., a grassroots revolt against segregated public transportation inspired a multitude of similar protests and boycotts. A number of school districts in the Southern and border states desegregated peacefully while one school system, Prince Edward County, Va, closed its public schools for a number of years rather than comply with the law.

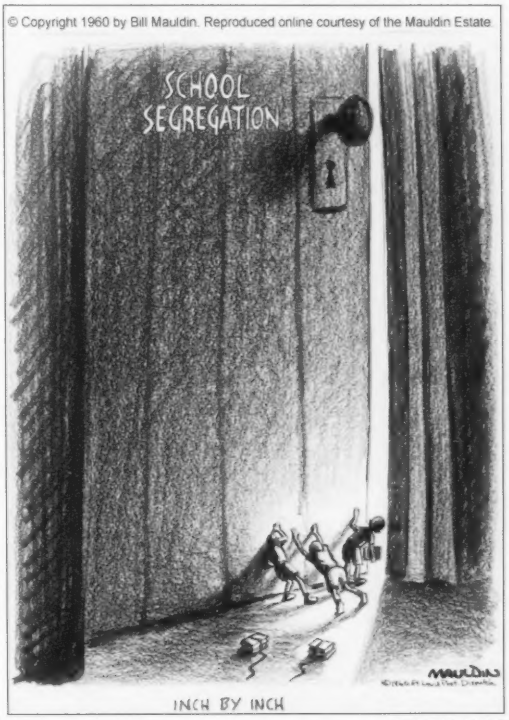
In 1956 Clinton High School in Knoxville, Tenn., was set to be the first high school in the South to be integrated after the Brown decision. Integration was progressing smoothly until the segregationist White Citizens Council came to town that fall. Protests and riots continued until early in December, when several white citizens escorted the African American students to class. One of the escorts was badly beaten afterward. As a result of the episode, the school was closed on Dec. 4; it reopened six days later without incident.

Elsewhere, white resistance to school desegregation resulted in open defiance and violent confrontations, requiring the use of federal troops in Little Rock, Ark., in 1957. Efforts to end segregation in Southern colleges were also marred by obstinate refusals to welcome African Americans into previously all-white student bodies.

In 1956 U.S. District Court Judge J. Skelly Wright ordered the desegregation of the New Orleans public schools. After a series of appeals, in 1960, Wright set down a plan that required the integration of the schools on a grade-per-year basis, beginning with the first grade. The New Orleans School Board issued a test to black kindergartners to determine the best candidates. Six-year-old Ruby Bridges was one of six children selected; four agreed to proceed. On Nov. 14 Bridges integrated the William Frantz School (the other three children were assigned to the McDonough School). In retaliation, white parents withdrew their children from the school, and Bridges' father was fired from his job. Ruby completed the first grade alone with the sup-

Courtesy of the NAACP

In 1957 15-year-old Dorothy Geraldine Counts and three other students were greeted by angry white mobs when they entered the previously all-white Harding High School in Charlotte, N.C.




© Copyright 1960 by Bill Mauldin. Reproduced online courtesy of the Mauldin Estate

Courtesy of the NAACP

Bill Mauldin's editorial cartoon "Inch by Inch," which appeared in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch on Sept. 1, 1960, takes issue with the slow pace of integration in public schools.

New York World-Telegram & Sun

U.S. troops escort African American students from Central High School in Little Rock, Ark., on Oct. 3, 1957.

port of Barbara Henry, a Boston teacher, and Robert Coles, a child psychiatrist.

Ruby's walk to school the first day, escorted by U.S. Marshals, inspired the 1964 Norman Rockwell painting, "The Problem We All Live With." The illustration appeared in the Jan. 14, 1964, issue of Look magazine. In a letter on display in the exhibition, Rockwell offers the illustration to the NAACP for subsequent use. He envisioned the NAACP reproducing the illustration as a poster to publicize the association's progress and accomplishments.

The image of Gov. George Wallace blocking the entrance to the University of Alabama is one of the most recognized of all the images from the civil rights period. On June 11, 1963, Wallace, surrounded by Alabama state troopers, confronted and blocked Assistant U.S. Attorney General Nicholas Katzenbach and the African American students from entering the university. President Kennedy had to federalize the National Guard and send them to the campus to assist with the integration process. Wallace did eventually step aside and allow the students to register.

By 1964, a decade after the Brown decision, the NAACP's focused legal campaign had been transformed into a mass movement to eliminate institutionalized racism from American life. This effort, marked by struggle and sacrifice, soon captured the imagination and sympathies of much of the nation. In many respects, the ideals expressed in Brown v. Board had inspired the dream of a society based on justice and racial equality. ◆

*Audrey Fischer is a public affairs specialist in the Library's Public Affairs Office. Exhibition curators Adrienne Cannon and Daun van Ee, Manuscript Division, contributed to this story.*

# Reporting History

## *Journalism and the Legacy of Brown v. Board of Education*

BY AUDREY FISCHER

Journalists looked back five decades at media coverage of the Brown v. Board case and the civil rights movement that the decision helped spark in a program sponsored jointly by the Library of Congress and the Newseum. The program was presented on May 17 in conjunction with the opening of the Library's exhibition "'With an Even Hand': Brown v. Board at Fifty."

"Media had one of its finest days," said former Washington Post reporter Dorothy Gilliam, referring to May 17, 1954, the day the Brown decision was handed down. Gilliam was the first black woman journalist at the Washington Post when she joined the staff in 1961.

"The Brown case was the first story about the black community that the white press covered," said Gilliam, "with the exception of crime reporting." She continued, "It was not benign neglect but conscious denigration."

Gilliam credits the black press for covering events and issues of interest to the black community for centuries. According to Gilliam, the civil rights movement would not have had the power it had if not for coverage by the black press, particularly in the period 1910-1950. She also credits television news coverage for igniting the movement, recalling the images of fire hoses and barking dogs being unleashed on protesters.

George Collins, former reporter for the Baltimore Afro-American, recalled the climate of the newsroom on the day the Brown decision was handed down.

"We knew it was coming down," said Collins, "so we were gearing up to get the reaction from official Baltimore and official Maryland."

Collins credits "progressive and enlightened leadership in City Hall and Annapolis" for containing the threat of violence. "Maryland prided itself on being a law-abiding state," he said.

William Taylor, a former member of Thurgood Marshall's legal team, had a bird's-eye view of the Brown case.

"It was the luckiest professional day of my life," Collins said, speaking of his one-year internship that led to a permanent job working for Marshall and the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund Inc.

"He had almost a religious faith in the law," recalled Collins, speaking of the man who would one day be appointed to the Supreme Court.

"The Brown case was about ending the racial caste system that had existed in America since the end of slavery," observed Collins.

Legal historian Mary Dudziak brought an international perspective to the discussion. Unlike the mainstream press in the United States, the international press offered extensive coverage of the race issue in America. During the period of the Cold War, when America was touting its model

*continued on page 91*

# China and Democracy: Many Views

## *Leading Luminaries Discuss Modern China*

By PEGGY SPITZER CHRISTOFF

The 2003-2004 holder of the Henry Alfred Kissinger Chair in Foreign Policy and International Relations at the Library of Congress, Lanxin Xiang, organized a panel this spring to explore the question of whether democracy is an important component of China's political system. The discussion was held at the Library on May 6.

A professor of international history and politics at the Institut Universitaire de Hautes Etudes Internationales in Geneva, Xiang has written three books in English and two in Chinese on historical variables in China's entry into a nation-state system.

At the start of the discussion, Xiang posed the following four questions to the members of the panel, which consisted of five very different scholars and political commentators.

First, what is the relationship between tradition and democracy vis-à-vis the "cultural resources" required for democracy?

Second, if Chinese tradition is unique, how are we to understand the differences in political development between Hong Kong and Taiwan?

Third, how do you assess the current Chinese leadership?

And fourth, what are the implications of China's political system in the realm of foreign policy?

Below is a brief summary of the panel members' responses. The author invites your comments on these topics as well; send them by e-mail to pech@loc.gov.

### James Leach

Rep. James Leach (R-Iowa), one of the architects of the Taiwan Relations Act, which defined Taiwan as part of China and led to the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and China in 1979, is chairman of the Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs of the House Committee on International Relations. Leach believes that it is very difficult to promote democracy in a hostile environment and that "democracy" is an alien concept to most Chinese. He proposed the idea that the American Revolution is an appropriate model for China in terms of "bottom-up reconstruction"—and that the American Revolution was more revolutionary than the Marxist-Leninist revolution, because the latter was a top-down initiative.

Leach maintains that most non-Chinese do not understand the importance of state and local levels of governance in China, which he characterizes as the impetus for fundamental change. In the Tiananmen democracy movement in 1989, he observed, the students' definition of "democracy" focused on getting rid of corruption and favoritism among elite factions in the Chinese Communist Party.

Of Taiwan, Leach said that caution is a fundamental priority in U.S. foreign policy. While all Americans support Taiwan's sovereignty, "security comes best with political ambiguity." That is, keeping the status quo allows Taiwan self-determination and decreases the chances of violence. He pointed out that Congress stands with President Bush in advocating restraint on both sides and promoting "people to people" exchanges for both Taiwan and China. In U.S. foreign policy, Leach advocates a course of effective management of bilateral relationships.

### Tu Wei-Ming

Tu Wei-Ming, professor of Chinese history, philosophy and Confucian studies and director of the Yenching Institute at Harvard University—established in 1928 to support student exchanges between the United States and China—looks to the European Enlightenment to discuss Chinese democracy and sees both liberty and justice as universal values that are integral to a market economy. Tu points out that, in contrast to Western values, Confucian ethics advocate a strong central government (formerly defined through the "mandate of heaven") to support the development of harmonious relationships within the family, among scholars and for self-cultivation. According to Tu, the development and implementation of Chinese communism between 1949 and 1979 broke down the Confucian value system, but it is now re-emerging.

Tu believes that the "one country, two systems" approach that seems to be working in Hong Kong will not work in Taiwan. He defines China's relationship with Taiwan as symbiotic and one that, in the present day, is "overheating." Further, he maintains that a positive outcome in the confrontation could occur if both sides engage in a constructive dialogue about core Confucian values.

### Carma Hinton

Carma Hinton, who was born on the eve of the Communist Revolution in 1949 in Beijing and lived there with her family until 1971, had much to say about current images of Chinese democracy. Her father, William Hinton, was a prominent China scholar who wrote about village life in Long Bow, China, in a book titled "Fanshen." Carma Hinton has produced award-winning documentary films, including "The Gate of Heavenly Peace," about the Tiananmen democracy movement in 1989, and "Morning Sun," which reveals the complexities of the Chinese Cultural Revolution during the period 1966 and 1968.

Hinton asserts—a view that may be surprising to many in the United States—that the highest-level leaders in China want democracy, but their position is complicated by the reports of the U.S. media. For example, the Tiananmen student demonstrations in

*continued on page 91*

Bill Ferris

Alan Lomax, behind camera, at Mississippi festival, 1979

# Bringing Folklore into the Fold

## *Acquisition Consolidates Alan Lomax Collections*

BY DON FLEMING AND DAVID A. TAYLOR

The American Folklife Center in the Library has acquired the Alan Lomax Collection, which comprises the unparalleled ethnographic documentation gathered by the legendary folklorist over a period of nearly 70 years.

The acquisition was made possible through a cooperative agreement between the American Folklife Center (AFC) and the Association for Cultural Equity (ACE) at Hunter College and the generosity of an anonymous donor.

With this acquisition, the Alan Lomax Collection joins the material Lomax and his father, John, collected during the 1930s and early 1940s for the Library's Archive of American Folk-Song, thus bringing the entire Lomax collection together for the first time, at the Library of Congress.

"The Alan Lomax Collection contains pioneering documentation of traditional music, dance, tales and other forms of grassroots creativity in the United States and abroad," said James H. Billington, the Librarian of Congress. "We are extremely pleased that this collection has come to our national library, where its creator did such important work in the 1930s and '40s."

From the time he left his position as head of the Archive of American Folk-Song at the Library in 1942, through the end of his long and productive career as an internationally known folklorist, author, radio broadcaster, filmmaker, concert and record producer and television host, Lomax amassed one of the most important collections of ethnographic material in the world.

The collection has been housed in several large rooms at Hunter College in New York City. It includes more than 5,000 hours of sound recordings, 400,000 feet of motion picture film, 2,450 videotapes, 2,000 scholarly books and journals, hundreds of photographic prints and negatives, several databases for portions of the archive and more than 120 linear feet of manuscript materials such as correspondence, field notes, research files, program scripts, indexes and book and article manuscripts.

Included in the collection are field recordings that Lomax made of traditional singers, instrumentalists and storytellers in the American South, the Caribbean, Britain, Scotland, Ireland, Spain and Italy. It includes original video footage, which was shot in the southern and southwestern United States, Washington, D.C., and New York City, that Lomax used as the basis of his "American Patchwork" television series, as well as videotapes of all the programs in the series. The collection contains 16mm footage of performances by Howling Wolf, Son House and others at the Newport Folk Festival during the 1960s, videotapes of folk dance performances and work elements and originals of numerous films that Lomax made.

Alan Lomax

Fishermen from Calabria, Italy

ACE will continue to produce the Alan Lomax Collection compact disc series on Rounder Records and administer rights to repertoire contained in the collection, working from digital copies made of all the original materials that will be housed at the Library. ACE plans to donate CD and DVD copies of hundreds of hours of audio and video recordings to regional libraries in the United States and abroad. Over the next few years, ACE will work closely with the American Folklife Center to create databases for the audio, video and film collections; to raise funds for preservation and for fellowships; and to make Lomax's ethnology of performance style available to researchers.

The Lomax family has a long history of collaboration with the Library of Congress. Alan's father, John Avery Lomax, began his relationship with the Library in June 1933, when he set out with Alan, then 18, on their first folk song gathering expedition under the Library's auspices. Together they visited Texas farms, prisons and rural communities, recording work songs, reels, ballads and blues.

Succeeding Robert W. Gordon, who in 1928 was appointed the first head of

Alan Lomax

Musicians playing in the street, Caggiano, Italy

Alan Lomax

Dancer from Valencia, Spain, 1952

the new Archive of American Folk-Song, John Lomax, then in the Music Division, served as "honorary consultant and curator of the Archive of American Folk-Song" from 1933 to 1942 and carried the title until his death. Having served as an unofficial assistant to his father, Alan Lomax became the archives' "assistant in charge" in 1937 and, in effect, managed the Archive of Folk-Song until 1942, when he joined the Army. Benjamin A. Botkin succeeded the Lomaxes in 1942. With his father and on his own, Alan Lomax published many books, including "American Ballads and Folk Songs" (1934) and "Our Singing Country" (1941).

During his tenure with the Library, Alan Lomax continued to make field trips and supply recordings to the Archive of American Folk-Song. He was the first to record such legendary musicians as Leadbelly, Woody Guthrie and Muddy Waters. He also recorded a series of important interviews with Jelly Roll Morton and recorded an enormous number of other significant traditional musicians.

After he left the Library in 1942, Alan Lomax continued his work to document, analyze and present traditional music, dance and narrative through projects of various kinds throughout the world. He received numerous honors and awards, including the National Medal of the Arts, the National Book Critics Circle award for "The Land Where the Blues Began" (1980) and a Living Legend award from the Library of Congress (2000). According to folklorist Roger Abrahams, he is "the person most responsible for the great explosion of interest in American folk song throughout the mid-20th century."

"We are delighted that our agreement with ACE makes it possible to combine Alan Lomax's earliest documentary material, which he collected during his time at the Library of Congress, with the material he collected during the rest of his life," said American Folklife Center Director Peggy Bulger. "His entire collection will now be available in one place. The collection is simultaneously a monument to one of the greatest cultural documenters of the 20th century and a priceless storehouse of traditional artistry."

Mickey Hart, member of the board of the American Folklife Center and longtime drummer with the Grateful Dead, said of the acquisition: "The Alan Lomax Collection has finally come home to the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. This sonic treasure chest represents the vivid stories, history, hopes and dreams of many cultures. Through these recordings, generations will come to know what has passed before them. The Lomax Collection is a jewel in the crown."

The Association for Cultural Equity, chartered in 1985, was founded by Alan Lomax to research, preserve and disseminate world folk performance traditions. Partnering with the American Folklife Center, ACE seeks to ensure that his legendary collection remains accessible to general and specialized audiences. ◆

*David Taylor is coordinator of acquisitions for the American Folklife Center, and Don Fleming is public affairs coordinator for the Association for Cultural Equity and director of licensing for the Alan Lomax Collection.*

Alan Lomax

Puppet performer Harry Cox, England, 1953

Alan Lomax, 1942

# Dolly Parton, Living Legend

## *Library of Congress Honors Famed Singer-Songwriter*

The Library of Congress honored country singer and musician Dolly Parton with its Living Legend medal at a special evening presentation on April 14.

The Library's Living Legend award is given to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to America's cultural, scientific and social heritage. Other musicians who have received the Living Legend award include Harry Belafonte, Johnny Cash, Dave Brubeck, Odetta and Yo Yo Ma.

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington presented the award to Parton at a concert in the Library's Coolidge Auditorium. In his presentation Billington said: "Dolly Parton has made an indelible mark on pop culture. Her contributions to crossover music, her ability to give voice to women's issues and the retention of her early Appalachian roots all stand as tribute to the artistry, heart and soul that Dolly brings to all she does."

The performance was taped for later broadcast on the Great American Country (GAC) cable television station, which is available in more than 25 million homes. The program is hosted by Bill Cody, host of GAC Classic.

Parton and her music are also featured in a special presentation on the Library's I Hear America Singing Web site at **www.loc.gov/ihas.**

Born on Jan. 19, 1946, in Locust Ridge, Tenn., Parton has traveled far beyond her roots. Launching a musical career when she was 10 years old, Parton has been performing publicly for nearly 50 years and has become one of the nation's most celebrated and successful music stars. Her earliest recorded song, "Puppy Love," was made when she was 12, and she gave her first performance at the Nashville Grand Ole Opry in 1959, when she was introduced by Johnny Cash.

In 1971 Parton scored her first No. 1 hit with "Joshua," after which she recorded a series of successful singles, including "Jolene," "Here You Come Again" and "9 to 5." More than two dozen of her albums reached gold, platinum or double platinum status. During her career, Parton has won seven Grammy Awards and nine Country Music Association Awards; she was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 1999. Billboard magazine ranks her as the No. 1 female country artist of all time.

Four years ago Parton embarked on a new musical journey and "went home" to the mountain music of her childhood. Her homage to bluegrass music, "The Grass Is Blue," won a Grammy Award in 2000. Other recent albums include "Little Sparrow" (2001), "Halos & Horns" (2002) and the patriotic album "For God and Country" (2003).

In addition to her long musical career, Parton has appeared in a number of films and is a successful businesswoman who operates theme parks, restaurants and a film production studio. In 1996 she launched "The Imagination Library," a nonprofit program designed to aid preschool children and promote the importance of childhood literacy in her native Sevier County, Tenn.

I Hear America Singing is a new Library of Congress Web site that invites visitors to experience the diversity of American performing arts through the Library's unsurpassed collections of scores, sheet music, audio recordings, films, photographs, maps and other materials. Special presentations on selected topics—from patriotic melodies to Gerry Mulligan—highlight some of the unexpected and unusual materials in the Library's collections. This site is the beginning of what will be a continually growing resource that draws from the Library's vast collections and concert archives. ◆

John Harrington

Dolly Parton accepts the Living Legend Award from Librarian of Congress James Billington.

John Harrington

Dolly Parton and her band perform for a Coolidge Auditorium audience at the Library.

## Panel

*continued from page 84*

form of government, the foreign press reported on the apparent contradiction in its unequal treatment of its black citizens.

"The Soviets seized on the practice of racial segregation as a tool against the U.S.," observed Dudziak. However, according to Dudziak, U.S. allies as well as enemies reported on race in America.

"U.S. diplomats tried hard to 'spin' the story," said Dudziak, "pointing out the level of change that occurred between 1865 and 1955, using the Brown case to reinforce the story."

According to Dudziak, some in the highest levels of the federal government, including President John F. Kennedy, knew that the Brown case was essential to the success of the Cold War.

"The leader of the free world couldn't just talk about change but had to demonstrate actual progress," said Dudziak.

Dudziak noted the chilling parallels to today's headlines about U.S. treatment of Iraqi prisoners. "What's in America's heart and soul can be seen everywhere American power is exercised."

In a heated discussion, the panel debated the long-term impact of the Brown decision.

"This should be a period of lamentation, not celebration," said Collins, referring to the 50th anniversary of the Brown decision. "What happened to the glorious promise of Brown?" he asked, voicing his concern about a preponderance in Congress of "those who are diametrically opposed to the goals of Brown."

Taylor vehemently disagreed. "Anyone who thinks the world isn't greatly changed hasn't been paying attention," he said.

Collins countered by inviting Taylor to visit small towns in the South. "Until all folks are enjoying economic privilege, then the promise of Brown has not been fulfilled," he said.

In his concluding remarks, panel moderator Frank Bond, producer and announcer for the Newseum, observed: "The Brown decision obviously can still spark serious debate 50 years later." ◆

*Audrey Fischer is a public affairs specialist in the Library's Public Affairs Office. The Library's Brown v. Board exhibition and its programming were made possible by the support of AARP, Anthony and Beatrice Welters, and AmeriChoice, a UnitedHealth Group Company.*

## China

*continued from page 85*

1989 demonized the Chinese leadership when, according to Hinton, there were zealots on both sides. Prominent student leaders wanted a top-down system of governance no different from the current form but with a different set of Chinese leaders.

Hinton believes that if bottom-up (read "grass roots") democracy is to have a chance in China, it has to address the tangible question of property rights. Hinton cautions that democracy is a learning process and that, because of the growing numbers of local bureaucrats, especially in rural areas, there is huge resistance to personal property ownership.

She finds encouraging the resurfacing of previously banned books and believes that, in the present day, it is almost impossible to have real censorship in China. She sees political debates emerging in China but notes that the Western press is unlikely to pick up on this.

### William Kristol

William Kristol, political analyst, commentator and editor of "The Weekly Standard," who is known for his neo-conservative stance on issues relating to U.S. domestic politics and foreign policy, asserts that all countries have cultural resources for democracy just as all countries have traditions that are incompatible with democracy. He points out that Western Christian roots, in both Catholic and Protestant traditions, were not democratic. Kristol believes that the current relationship between China and Taiwan is unsustainable precisely because it is outdated: the "one China policy" was developed at a time when Taiwan was not a democracy. Now that Taiwan holds elections and has a vibrant economy to support democracy, the United States must remove itself as the protector of Taiwan against China.

Kristol stated that the development of a civil society in Hong Kong will not occur, because the Chinese leadership is hostile to anything outside of its control. He cited Bruce Gilley's book "China's Democratic Future: How It Will Happen and Where It Will Lead" as a blueprint for change and disagrees with what he believes to be a fashionable notion that one must "downplay the importance of democracy."

### Donald Munro

Donald Munro, professor emeritus of Chinese philosophy at the University of Michigan and author of "The Concept of Man in Contemporary China" (2002), believes that democracy is a style of practical problem-solving in which "freedom of speech" provides the opportunity for rational decision-making. He cited two examples in which a lack of an objective reality in China led to disaster: in the 1950s, when China attempted to adopt wholesale a Soviet model and promoted uncontrolled population growth; and in 1998, when the lack of proper planning led to major flooding of the Daqing oilfields. Munro believes that, in order for change to occur, the Chinese educational system of rote learning needs to be replaced by a system that encourages independent, autonomous thinking. He finds a basis for the latter in the Confucian Analects, which promote the preservation of family relationships within the larger context of Chinese society.

### Xiang Lanxin

Xiang, who brought together this group of scholars to discuss the Chinese political situation, has yet another view of democracy in China. First, he does not believe that the American "language of democracy" translates in a Chinese cultural framework; and second, that the European concept of democracy, implemented through the development of communities such as the European Union, is closer to the Chinese framework than the U.S. preoccupation with individualism and unilateral foreign policy.

*Peggy Spitzer Christoff is a program consultant in the John W. Kluge Center.*

# Literature, Particle Physics and Judaism

## *Herman Wouk Discusses a Wide Variety of Subjects*

By BIBI MARTÍ

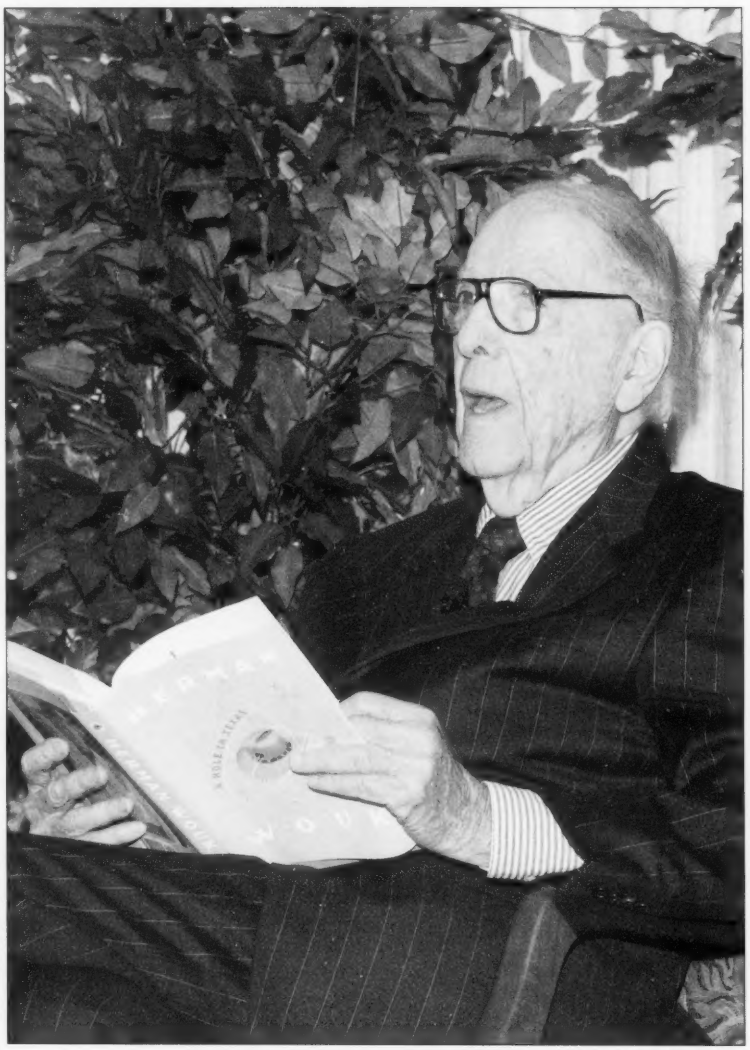
The Pulitzer Prize-winning author Herman Wouk spoke about literature, particle physics and Judaism, among other topics, during an informative and inspiring conversation with New York Times' columnist William Safire at the Library of Congress on April 21. The event was co-sponsored by the Library's Center for the Book and the Science, Technology and Business Division, which assisted Wouk with research for his latest novel, "A Hole in Texas." Their discussion featured anecdotes and personal ruminations by Wouk about his inspirations and influences.

"A Hole in Texas" is Wouk's 12th novel, the latest installment in a long and storied literary career that has seen Wouk's novels interpreted on stage and screen and his work awarded prestigious awards.

Wouk was born in 1915 to Russian Jewish immigrant parents and grew up in the Bronx, New York. He graduated from Columbia University and wrote for comedian Fred Allen's radio shows from 1936 to1941. He served in the U.S. Navy and took several tours of duty in the Pacific after Pearl Harbor. In 1946 Wouk began his career as a writer full time; he published his first novel, "Aurora Dawn," in 1947.

Among Wouk's most popular books are his epic war novels about World War II and the Holocaust, "The Winds of War" and "War and Remembrance," which became television miniseries in 1983 and 1988, respectively. Several of Wouk's books have been made into films, such as "The Caine Mutiny," the 1951 novel for which he won the Pulitzer Prize in fiction in 1952. The book was subsequently made into a play and adapted for a film, starring Humphrey Bogart, in 1954.

William Safire is also a novelist and a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist. He has written 13 books on grammar, usage and etymology and spent time as a White House speechwriter for President Nixon before joining The New York Times in 1973 as a political columnist. In 1978 Safire won the Pulitzer Prize for distinguished commentary. Safire writes the Sunday column, "On Language," which has appeared in The New York Times since 1979. His novels include "Freedom" (1978), "Sleeper Spy" (1995) and "Scandalmonger" (2002).



Wayne Fisher

Herman Wouk reads from his 12th novel, "A Hole in Texas." The 89-year-old writer discussed the book, which is centered around the controversial 1960s Superconducting Supercollider experiment.

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington introduced the author and interviewer, calling them the "powerhouse team of Herman Wouk and Bill Safire, two of the most literate craftsmen of the English language alive today."

The room was filled with Wouk admirers, many holding copies of Wouk's books to be inscribed by the author at the end of the program.

Safire began the talk with an anecdote about a visit to Wouk's home library: "There I noticed hundreds of books about World War II and asked Herman if he had read all of them. He answered, 'some of them twice,' which I thought was a nice evasion!"

Wouk's newest novel, "A Hole in Texas," is a story centered around the controversial 1960s federally funded Superconducting Supercollider, a science experiment intended to create the elusive Higgs boson particle.

In answer to Safire's question, "What is a Higgs boson?" Wouk read an excerpt from the author's note in the novel, which noted that "99.999 percent of all Americans don't know what the hell a Higgs boson is; nevertheless, when Congress voted several billion dollars to fund the search for the thing, American taxpayers footed the bill. Then, when this gargantuan project, the Superconductor Supercollider, the largest basic science project in world history, was well underway, Congress abruptly pulled the plug, killed the project and voted another billion dollars just to close it down. That left some two thousand particle physicists high, dry and unemployed on a forlorn plain outside of Dallas ... the sole residue of their miscarried quest for the Higgs boson was a hole in Texas. An enormous, abandoned hole. It's still there."

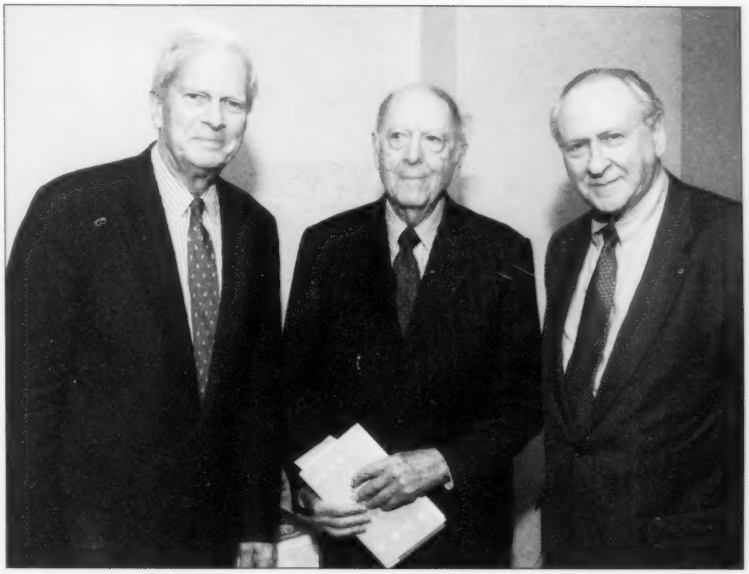
Wouk looked up from his book and addressed the audience: "That's no answer, but it's a good evasion!"

When asked where the idea of writing about the Higgs boson came from, Wouk answered that he was not sure where the idea of the Superconductor Supercollider came from. Aspects of the Superconductor Supercollider project struck Wouk as a comical intersection: the irony of the fact that incomprehension on the part of the politicians who funded the project originally also fueled its demise.

Wouk described the subject of the novel, the intersection of politics and science, as "very heavy," but he used humor to deal with the subject. Wouk mentioned that many such "heavy" issues hang over us today, and he named nuclear war, atom bombs and arms races among his concerns. Humor, he said, helps him cope with the seriousness of these issues.

Safire noted that this was not the first time that Wouk has used humor to counter serious themes and named "Inside Outside," a novel about a Nixon speechwriter, as one of the funniest books Wouk had ever written. Wouk replied that he considered that book the closest he has ever come to writing an autobiography; in it the main character explores and fully realizes his identity as an American Jew.

Switching subjects, Safire wondered aloud about the state of the historical novel today and described Wouk's narrative style: "It has a beginning, a middle and an end, which, as we all know, is old-fashioned. Isn't it easier



Wayne Fisher

Herman Wouk (center) stands between Librarian of Congress, James Billington (left) and William Safire after Wouk's and Safire's "fireside chat."

Wayne Fisher

Safire (left) and Wouk discuss Wouk's career and the salient issues that inspire his life and writing.

to take the road of multimedia than the old-fashioned book?"

Wouk replied that after World War II, there was "a serious stirring in the literary world that 'the novel is dead,'" and a movement began to abandon the storytelling novel. Wouk posited, however, that "whoever said that is a guy whose novel died!"

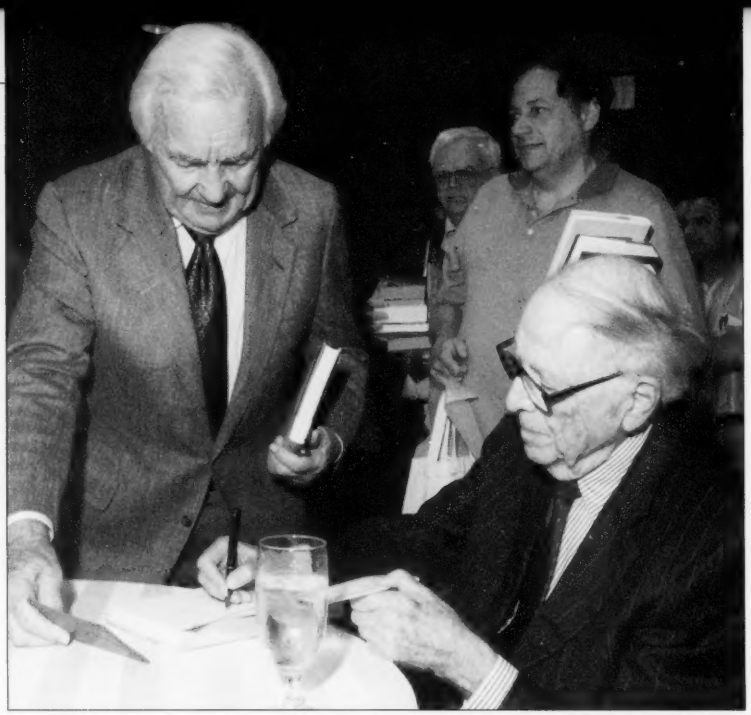
In Wouk's estimation, today's novel is flourishing, evidenced by his grandson's interest and enthusiasm for J.K. Rowling's series on Harry Potter.

"Why isn't the novel dead?" Wouk asked. "Because the enduring power of the novel is that the reader does the work." Books, after all, are a "bunch of black marks on paper," he said, "but the reader does about half the work—and I have done some work, but the [reader] does the work. That's why I think the novel isn't dead, and I don't think it's going to die. I think the competition is serious, [but] the competition is good for the soul and good for art." The audience responded with a spontaneous round of applause.

Safire and Wouk then discussed Mark Twain's influence on Wouk's work and compared Mark Twain's "Tom Sawyer" and "Huckleberry Finn." Wouk called "Huckleberry Finn" "the supreme American novel" and "Twain's Civil War novel." Wouk pointed out that during Twain's lifetime, writing about race relations from a boy's perspective was the only way that the subject of race could be broached at that point in American history. Twain, Wouk said, wrote about the relationship between the white man and the black man, about their relationship as brothers, but he could not say that directly; he could not speak about the Civil War with such candor.

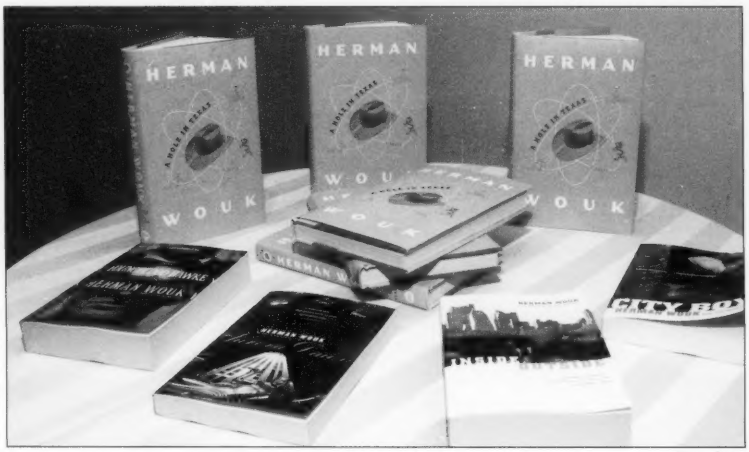
Wouk pointed out, "Twain wrote, I and Jim we are brothers." Twain spoke his mind about slavery and race relations "in the mouth and in the mind of an illiterate 11-year-old boy. Jim is one of the greatest human creations in all of literature. And so is Huck. But Huck is more than that. Huck is the source of the modern American writer, of which Hemingway is an example. Huckleberry Finn ... inspired the modern American novel."

Safire then "got personal." After naming mutual friends who currently produce work in their 70s, 80s and 90s, he asked Wouk, "What keeps you going at the age of 89?"



Wayne Fisher

After the discussion, a long line of patient fans waited for Wouk to sign their copies of his novel.




Wayne Fisher

Five of Wouk's 12 novels (clockwise from top): "A Hole in Texas" (2004), "The City Boy" (1948), "Inside Outside" (1985), "Aurora Dawn" (1947) and "Youngblood Hawk" (1961)

Wouk answered that several factors play into his ability to work continually: a supportive partner, namely his wife, Sarah, with whom he has three sons, who has enabled him to work without distraction; and his commitment to the study of Judaism.

Finally, Safire asked Wouk if he had anything in mind for his future. "Thinking?" Wouk replied. "I'm about seven chapters into it. It's as close to impossible as anything I've taken on. And I'm going to get through it or they'll carry me out feet first, saying 'the guy was working on this.' I just have things to keep going on, all the time, thank God."

To which Safire responded, "Herman, you're, to put it mildly, a goddamn inspiration." ◆

*Bibi Martí is a public affairs specialist in the Library's Public Affairs Office.*

# A Touch of the Poet

## *Yevgeny Yevtushenko Seizes the Stage*

By DONNA URSCHEL

Renowned Russian poet Yevgeny Yevtushenko dazzled the overflowing crowd in the Coolidge Auditorium April 29 at a poetry reading filled with dramatic flair, music and words of wisdom.

With a commanding voice and a penchant for moving about the stage and even into the audience, Yevtushenko presented an entertaining evening of poetry that his fans will not likely forget. He also recited for the first time in America "Kisses in Subway," a poem that deals with two recent events in Russia: a bureaucratic regulation to ban kissing on the subway and an explosion on the subway by Chechen terrorists that killed 200.

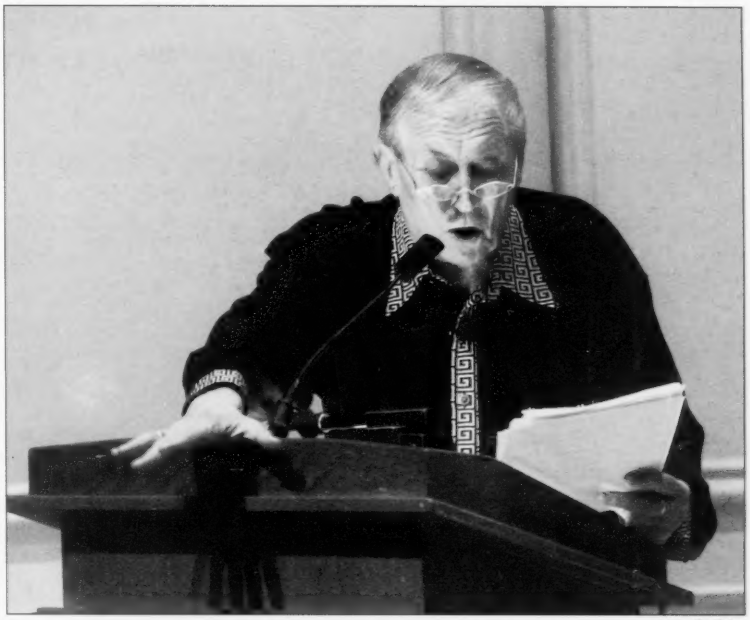
In his introductory remarks, Librarian of Congress James H. Billington welcomed Yevtushenko back to the Library after 28 years. Yevtushenko was the first poet from post-Stalinist Russia to read his work in the West and one of the few artists allowed out of the Soviet Union during the Cold War. Yevtushenko became a voice for the young post-Stalin generation and called for greater artistic freedom in the Soviet Union. He read his poems in the Coolidge Auditorium in 1966.

Yevtushenko's 1961 poem "Babi Yar," a denunciation of Russian anti-Semitism, brought him international recognition and inspired Dimitri Shostakovich to write his symphony No. 13 ("Babi Yar").

Billington said, "He continues to travel widely to give readings, but his home for the past decade has been Tulsa, Okla., which he describes as 'very American ... where you can find the real soul of the country.'"

Yevtushenko started the evening by reading a long piece of prose on aging called "There Are No Years." He talked about his life and loves through the years and lamented at one point how "a charming young girl gave me my senior citizenship" when she offered him her seat on the subway. He also observed, "At 50, you begin to be tired of the world. At 60, the world is tired of you."

His next selection was the poem "Sleep My Beloved," which he read



Pat Fisher

Yevgeny Yevtushenko reads from his poetry before an enthusiastic audience at the Library of Congress.

Pat Fisher

Actress Anne Kepe shares the stage of the Coolidge Auditorium with Yevtushenko as she reads his poems in English and he follows with a reading in Russian.

Pat Fisher

**Yevtushenko delighted the crowd by leaving the stage and walking up and down the aisle of the Coolidge Auditorium.**

along with Anne Kepe, a young actress who recently received her master's in fine arts from the Shakespeare Theatre, Academy for Classical Acting in Washington, D.C. After Kepe read the entire poem in English, Yevtushenko read it in Russian. Russian and English readings also were given, verse by verse, for "Metamorphoses" and, line by line, for "I Love You More Than Nature."

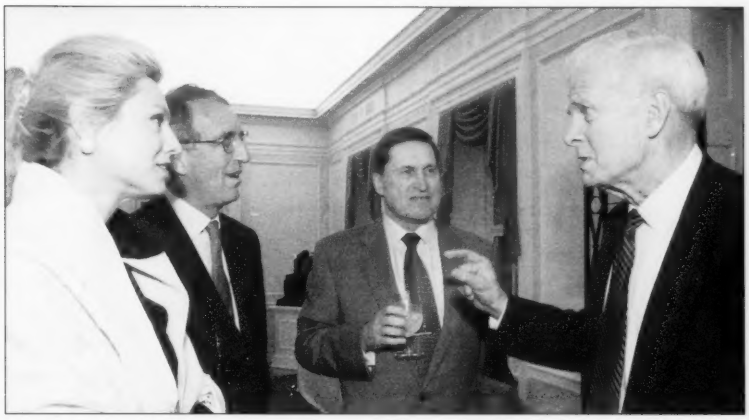
"Metamorphoses," which describes the different stages of life, was a crowd pleaser with its humorous play on words. The four-stanza poem deals with childhood, youth, maturity and old age. The first stanza:

> Childhood is the village of
> Rosycheekly,
> Little Silly, Clamberingoverham,
> Leapfrogmorton, going toward
> Cruelidge,
> through Unmaliciousness and
> Clearvisiondon.

The poems took a darker turn into the realm of death in Yevtushenko's next three selections: "Kisses in Subway," "The Execution of Stenka Razin"

Pat Fisher

**Librarian James Billington and Yevtushenko exchange ideas at the dinner following the public program.**



Pat Fisher

The Ambassador of the Russian Federation, Yury Ushakov (center), and Ambassador of the Netherlands Boudewign van Eenennaam and Mrs. van Eenennaam (left) talk with the Librarian after the Yevtushenko reading.

and "La Corrida." Before reading the newly presented "Kisses in Subway," Yevtushenko discussed the events in Moscow that inspired his poem—the Chechen terrorist attack and the ban on kissing in the subway. An excerpt of the first several lines:

You, new Russian hypocritical
puritans
made overnight in a brothel,
were trying to forbid kisses in
the Moscow subway.
But after the explosion
in the tunnel, stuffed with
smoke and flames,
somebody's unkissed lips
were flying,
torn from exploded bodies,
kissing only the
charred railways.

After reciting "Kisses in Subway," Yevtushenko expressed gratitude for the friendly relations between Russia and the United States and their mutual goal of fighting terrorism.

Yevtushenko introduced music into the program by playing a Paul Robeson recording of an American folk song "The Plains," from the CD "The Songs of Free Men," before he recited the poem "Paul Robeson in Moscow." Olga Simonova came onstage to sing "Lara's Song" from "Dr. Zhivago" during the poem "Lara's Song in Tulsa." Svetlana Nikonova provided piano accompaniment.

"The City of Yes and the City of No" was the final poem of the evening. It was recited by Yevtushenko's young son, Zhenya.

At the end of the presentation, Billington returned to the stage for a few brief remarks and summarized the evening's performance: Yevtushenko "started with a piece on aging, took us into the realm of music, provided an invocation of relations between two countries and showed us hope for the future—a young Yevtushenko!" ◆

*Donna Urschel is a freelance writer in the Washington area.*

# The Lawyer as Citizen

## *Law Day Panel Explores the Lawyer in American Culture*

BY JANICE HYDE AND ROBERT MANDER

The concept of the lawyer as "citizen"—the final program in the five-part Leon Jaworski Public Program Series, "Representing the Lawyer in American Culture"—was examined by a distinguished group of panelists during a commemoration of Law Day on May 1, which was co-hosted by the Law Library of Congress and the American Bar Association's (ABA) Division on Public Education. The ABA instituted Law Day, generally celebrated on May 1, in the late 1950s to draw attention to the principles and practices of law and justice.

Robert Grey, president-elect of the ABA, presided. Rubens Medina, Law Librarian of Congress, welcomed those attending and noted the relevance of the Library of Congress as a venue for the event, since the Library "holds representations of lawyers' intellectual creativity in their various roles" in its collections. He said that "those of us who have chosen law as our profession need to be aware of the kinds of examples we offer to those just entering the field" and said he was curious as to how the panelists would address one of the evening's guiding questions: "Who exemplifies the American lawyer as citizen?"

National Law Day Chair David Collins observed that Law Day is "the occasion each year when attorneys self-consciously step into their role as citizen." Remarking that the ABA chose the 50th anniversary of the historic Brown v. Board of Education decision as its national theme for Law Day 2004, Collins emphasized the fact that Brown has been put to use in all kinds of civic activities. He informed the audience that Charles Rhyne, founder of Law Day, died in 2003 and noted that Rhyne believed passionately in the "liberating role of law." In his lifetime, Collins said, Rhyne fought against segregation of the DC Bar Association and founded the World Peace Through Law Program, accomplishments that Collins attributed to Rhyne's acting as a "lawyer as public citizen."

The panel was moderated by Lincoln Caplan, Knight senior journalist at Yale Law School and editor and president of Legal Affairs magazine. Caplan suggested that for lawyers who are officers of the court, the lawyer as citizen is particularly important, and the concept is spelled out in rules of conduct. Recently, however, he said there seems to be a crisis of confidence, moving him to ask, "Has our profession sacrificed principle for profit?"

Caplan suggested that the golden age of lawyering was exemplified by Jefferson and Madison, lawyers acting as statesmen.

Rob Crandall

**Law Librarian Rubens Medina (at lectern) welcomes participants and guests to the fifth annual Leon Jaworski Public Program Series commemorating Law Day 2004. Standing behind Medina and presiding at the session, "Representing the Lawyer as Citizen," is Robert Grey. Panelists, seated left to right, are: Lincoln Caplan, Wendy Kaminer, Philip Howard, Douglas Wilder and Austin Sarat.**

Caplan offered two responses to the question "What does the lawyer as citizen mean?" First, the lawyer is acting as citizen when he offers his services on a pro bono basis; and second, when his daily performance as an independent counselor in private practice reflects the principles of statesman, reformer and teacher. Daniel Boorstin, the former Librarian of Congress, served as a role model of the "unusually able lawyer and citizen," Caplan said.

Moderator Caplan next asked the panel, "Should lawyers worry about being citizens?"

Austin D. Sarat, William Nelson Cromwell Professor of Jurisprudence and Political Science at Amherst College, responded that he has been studying "cause lawyers," those who, for example, regularly represent death row clients. He argued that "there is more to being a lawyer than representing a single client. It's good for society and good for the bar. The bar as a whole ought to take on the role of responsible citizen."

Wendy Kaminer added that lawyers as citizens need to look at whether they are acting in good faith and with integrity. Kaminer is a lawyer who has served as a contributing editor to the Atlantic Monthly since 1991, a columnist for Free Inquiry and senior correspondent for American Prospect. She observed that "the client is the public citizen standing up under difficult circumstances. Lawyers can't be good public citizens without clients who are brave."

Defending cultural relativism, Kaminer indicted moral dogmatism as a challenge to today's lawyer-citizen.

Representing a different perspective, panelist Philip K. Howard, vice-chairman of Covington & Burling, where he is a senior corporate adviser and founder of Common Good, a national bipartisan coalition to "overhaul America's lawsuit culture and restore the role of common sense in American institutions," defended tort lawyers against a growing public skepticism. "Our failings as a profession are not limited to tort lawyers, and not all tort lawyers are morally bankrupt," he said. "But there are problems with the system when no one questions decisions that bankrupt hospitals."

In an age of legal specialization, Howard hearkened back to a time when the lawyer was a "citizen leader," lawyers such as Abraham Lincoln who served as town "elders" in small communities across America. "A change in values in a relativistic culture has put these citizen leaders in the closet," he complained. "There is a crisis in the idea of leadership."

The panel also considered the roles that financial incentives, moral guidance, professional ethics, the public good, the adversarial system and the cost of education play in shaping the lawyer as citizen in today's culture.

The concluding discussion focused on the need for the legal profession to develop standards and procedures for turning itself into a public profession. The panelists agreed that civic education is necessary so that by the time individuals reach law school, they are already imbued with the values needed to serve as lawyer-citizens. As panelist Douglas Wilder (former governor of Virginia and now distinguished professor in the Center for Public Policy and the department of political science at Virginia Commonwealth University) noted, "If you have to learn it in law school, it's too late." ◆

*Janice Hyde is a program officer and Robert Mander a writer-editor in the Law Library of Congress.*

# Strengthening Legislative Governance

## *Delegation from Pakistan Visits Law Library*

By ROBERT MANDER

Eager to bring international attention, especially U.S. attention, to a recently enacted amendment to its Constitution, a visiting delegation of Pakistani parliamentarians was encouraged to disseminate the information through the Law Library's digital Global Legal Information Network (GLIN).

At a briefing hosted by the Law Library of Congress on April 26, the Pakistani delegates expressed the need to inform world legislators of the enactment of the 17th amendment to the Pakistan Constitution, which deals with several procedures involving the presidency, judiciary and previous laws.

Janice Hyde, program officer of GLIN, explained that GLIN enables legislators to post legislation "as fast as you can enact it" for worldwide dissemination. Hyde emphasized to the delegates that GLIN maintains a unique standard of reliability to assure users that a posting on the GLIN Web site is "an exact digital replica of the official law." On behalf of the Law Library, she formally invited Pakistan to become GLIN's first South Asian member, an area of the world that is currently being watched for legal developments.

The Pakistani delegation is touring several U.S. government agencies and facilities as part of a project called "Strengthening Legislative Governance in Pakistan," whose purpose is to "improve the transparency, accountability and competency of the legislative branch while establishing constructive links between legislative bodies, civil society and citizens." The project is managed by World Vision, a private, nonprofit organization, under a three-year, $14 million grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). World Vision is one of six partners that make up the Pakistan Legislative Strengthening Consortium (PLSC), an umbrella group that structures and coordinates activities under the initiative.

The delegation was in the United States to introduce the Pakistani legislators to the role that research services play in the American legislative process. Heading the delegation of five top legislative officials was Chaudhry Amir Hussain, speaker of Pakistan's National Assembly. Other visitors included Saleem Mahmood, secretary of the National Assembly, and, representing the Senate side of the Pakistani Parliament, Shahid Iqbal, secretary, and Iftikhar ullal Babar, joint secretary. Also attending were Sohail Khan, first secretary to the Pakistan Embassy, and Hanif M. Akhtar, president of the Pakistan-American Business Association.

Kersi Shroff, chief of the Law Library's Western Law Division, who spearheaded contacts with Pakistani legislators during a recent fact-finding mission to Islamabad, assured the delegates that U.S. legislators are regularly informed of important legislation enacted in Pakistan. Asked about a recently enacted electronic data law in that country, Shroff pointed to a Law Library report to Congress that included the new legislation. He added that a recent major multinational report to members of Congress on international terrorism included important Pakistani legislative actions on this issue of global concern.

D.C. McGee

**From left are Krishan Nehra, Law Library; Shahid Iqbal, Pakistan Senate; Tariq Junaid, Pakistan Legislative Strengthening Consortium; Saleem Mehmood, National Assembly of Pakistan; and Kersi Shroff of the Law Library.**

Welcoming the legislators, Rubens Medina, Law Librarian of Congress, described to the delegates the Law Library's mission "to open doors and windows of information on the importance of all the world's laws." W. Gary Sharp Sr., director of Legal Research, provided the delegates with an overview of the Law Library's mandates to serve all three branches of government with comparative legal research.

Krishan Nehra, the Law Library's senior legal specialist for Pakistan, pointed to the Law Library's sizeable collection of original Pakistani legal documents and discussed the Law Library's ability to draw on its extensive legal collections to respond to questions from members of Congress and other government leaders about high-visibility issues such as minorities, human rights and Islamic law. The Pakistani legislators also visited the Library 's Congressional Research Service and the U.S. State Department.

The National Assembly is one of the two legislative bodies in Pakistan's bicameral Parliament established under the nation's 1973 constitution. Elections for the current National Assembly were held in October 2002, and members serve five-year terms. The legislative bodies of Pakistan had been suspended through a Proclamation of Emergency issued by President Pervez Musharraf, but in May 2000 the Supreme Court of Pakistan ruled that the military regime must hand over control to an elected government in three years. Since the 2002 elections, the assembly's 217 popularly elected and 10 religious minority members have convened according to the constitution's provisions.

Pakistan is an Islamic Republic with a population of more than 130 million. ◆

*Robert Mander is a writer-editor in the Law Library of Congress.*

# With a Foot in Each Culture

## *Howard University Law Professor Fights Racial Stereotypes*

By AUDREY FISCHER

How many Asian Americans between the ages of 4 and 80 have been confronted by a Westerner striking a Kung Fu pose? This was the tongue-in-cheek question posed to a Library of Congress audience by Howard University law professor Frank Wu, who knows more than a little something about racial stereotyping. Wu delivered the 2004 Asian Pacific American Heritage Month keynote address on May 11.

"They don't mean any harm," said Wu, who acknowledged that images of martial arts masters such as Bruce Lee and Jackie Chan permeate popular culture. "I just wish they would come up with some new material," he joked.

The author of "Yellow: Race in America Beyond Black and White," Wu is often asked why he seems obsessed with race.

"The answer is 'we all are,'" said Wu. "The fact that many white people claim they don't think about race is part of the problem," he added.

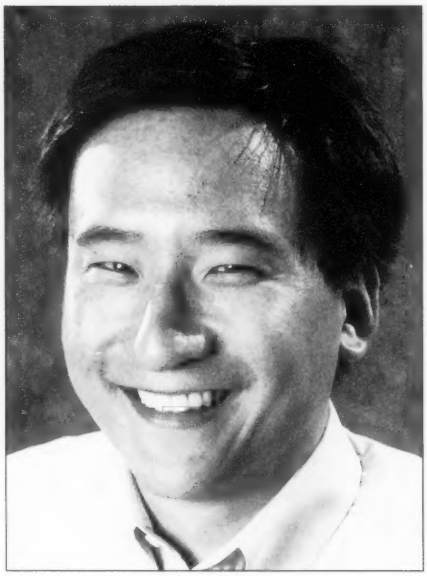
Frustrated by not having a witty response to incidents of racial stereotyping, Wu decided to write a book about it. "Some of the things I wish I had said but didn't think of at the time are included in the book," said Wu, who doesn't claim to speak for all Asian Americans.

Born in Cleveland and raised in Detroit, Wu realized at an early age that he was different from his classmates, and he blamed it on his parents. "I was Chinese because they were Chinese," said Wu. In turn, they blamed him for not trying harder to fit in.

"It was neither of our faults," said Wu. "We didn't bring about these forms of discrimination and bias."

Wu also learned early that some of the Asian values his parents tried to instill in him "may not have been the best for their American-born progeny," observed Wu.

The virtues of humility, not calling attention to oneself or claiming credit for a job well done, which are highly valued by Asian culture, run contrary to what it takes to be successful in American society. The Asian proverb that warns that "the nail that sticks up is pounded down" is in sharp contrast to the American adage that "the squeaky wheel gets the grease."



Frank Wu

As a lawyer working in a competitive corporate law firm, Wu realized that he would have to forge a new identity. "I had to choose a path that combines what it means to be Asian but also American," explained Wu.

Perhaps that is why he chose to teach the law rather than just practice it. While he was a visiting professor at the University of Michigan, he received the Teacher of the Year award from the Black Law Students Alliance. As a law professor at Howard University, a historically black college, he feels a responsibility to dispel the negative stereotypes attributed to his students.

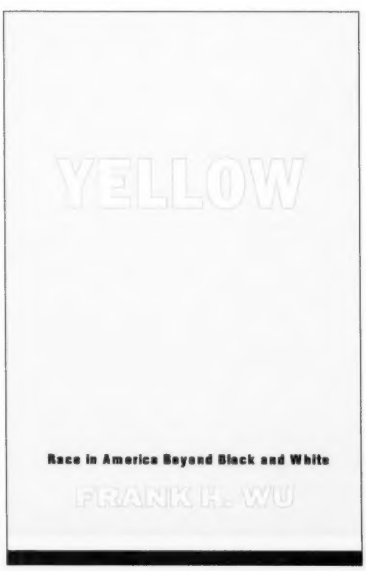
According to Wu, Asians are seen as nerds and geeks as well as submissive people who know their place. African American males are often seen as thugs who should be shunned and avoided. According to Wu, it is not enough for him to fight against discrimination of Asians. He also feels an obligation to speak out against all forms of racial stereotyping.

"My family often tells me not to be so controversial," said Wu. "They don't seem to realize that I have made a career out of being controversial," he joked.

Wu is troubled by being asked to predict when all the discussion about race will be over.

"I don't think it will ever be over, and that's what makes our country great," said Wu. "I believe that diversity, like democracy, is a process, not an outcome. It's something that people should participate in, as they participate in a democratic society. Only together will we make good on the promise of a diverse democracy." ◆

*Audrey Fischer is a public affairs specialist in the Library's Public Affairs Office.*



# Advertising and World Cultures

## *Library Announces 2004 Coca-Cola Fellowship Recipient*

Angela Blake of the University of Toronto has been selected by the Library of Congress to receive the 2004 Library of Congress Coca-Cola Fellowship for the Study of Advertising and World Cultures.

Administered by the Library's Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division in collaboration with the Library's Office of Scholarly Programs and the John W. Kluge Center, the fellowship is awarded on a competitive basis to researchers studying the interrelationships among advertising, culture, commerce and the media.

Blake's proposal, "Sound and the City: Aurality, Place and Community in Post-1945 New York and Toronto," is an innovative study of the aural dimension of urban history that will rely heavily on the Library's recorded sound collections.

In its second year, the fellowship provides recipients with a stipend of $20,000 and access to resources for an extended period of in-depth, multidisciplinary research in the Library's enormous audiovisual and other multiformat research collections.

Selection of the Coca-Cola Fellow was made by Librarian of Congress James H. Billington, upon the recommendation of a three-person selection committee chosen from non-Library of Congress experts from the broader academic community.

Announcing the winner Billington said, "The Library of Congress has the largest and most comprehensive audiovisual collections in the world, and the Coca-Cola Fellowship provides a golden opportunity for scholarly research in this important area."

Funding for the scholarship was provided by a grant from the Coca-Cola Co. in connection with the donation of its archival collection of television broadcast advertising materials to the Library of Congress in 2000. The original funding from Coca-Cola allowed for the awarding of five fellowships on a yearly basis beginning in 2003; two fellowships were awarded in 2003. The two remaining fellowships will be awarded over the next two years, and acceptance of applications for the 2005 fellowship will begin Nov. 1, 2004. For more information, visit the Library's Web site at **www.loc.gov/rr/mopic/cokefellowship.**

The donation by the Coca-Cola Co. of its archive of television broadcast advertising materials to the Library was made in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the company's first television commercial, which aired on Thanksgiving Day 1950. The collection consists of more than 22,000 commercials that document Coca-Cola's entire broadcast advertising, including those produced internationally.

The donation of the collection was received by the Library as part of its Bicentennial Gifts to the Nation program, marking the Library's 200th anniversary in 2000. The donation represents the largest gift of corporate advertising in the Library's history and joins a rich existing collection of broadcast advertising materials dating to the early days of radio. ◆

# Health and Spirituality

## *$2.5 Million Gift Establishes Larson Fellowship*

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington has accepted a $2.5 million gift from the board of directors of the International Center for the Integration of Health and Spirituality (ICIHS) for the creation of the David B. Larson Fellowship in Health and Spirituality at the Library's John W. Kluge Center.

This fellowship honors the late David B. Larson, M.D., M.S.P.H., former president and founder of ICIHS, an epidemiologist and psychiatrist, who focused on potentially relevant but understudied factors that might help in prevention, coping or recovering from illness.

In announcing the gift, Billington said, "We are pleased to be able to support innovative research in a field of growing significance in cultures worldwide."

The recipient of the David B. Larson Fellowship in Health and Spirituality will continue in Larson's tradition of working on cutting-edge initiatives.

The fellowship is designed to encourage gifted professionals from medical, religious, social science and humanistic disciplines to pursue the challenge of serious scientific research in this emerging field of study. Interdisciplinary or cross-cultural proposals are welcomed. Concentrated study will focus on aspects of the interactions between health and spirituality using the vast resources of the Library of Congress along with access to the National Library of Medicine.

The endowment of the David B. Larson Fellowship in Health and Spirituality can be augmented by other contributions to honor Larson's memory and to enhance the fellowship's effectiveness. To become a donor, or for more information about the fellowship or any of the Kluge Center's fellowships or programs, contact the Office of Scholarly Programs, Library of Congress, 101 Independence Ave. S.E., Washington, DC 20540-4860; telephone (202) 707- 3302; fax (202) 707-3595; e-mail at scholarly@loc.gov.

Application guidelines for the David B. Larson Fellowship in Health and Spirituality are available on the Kluge Center Web site, **www.loc.gov/kluge.** ◆

## *News from the Center for the Book*

# Reading Promotion Partners Exchange Ideas

By JOHN Y. COLE

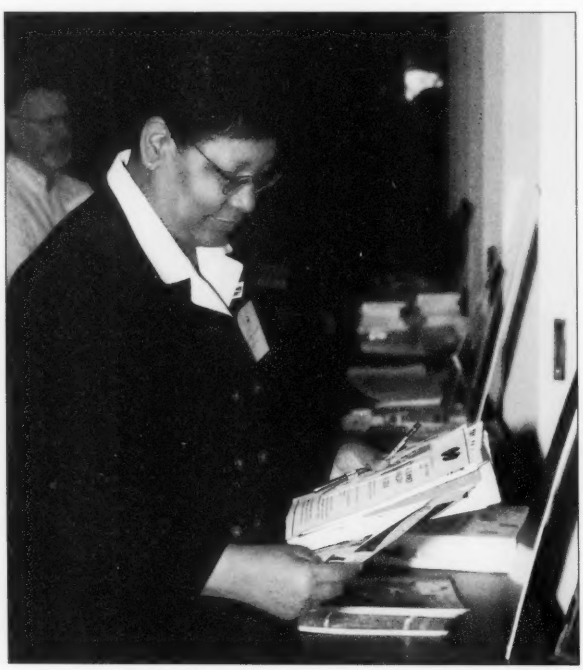
Forty-five organizations took part in the Center for the Book's annual reading promotion partners' "idea exchange" at the Library of Congress on March 30.

In addition to sharing information about their reading and literacy promotion programs, representatives from partner organizations presented project opportunities to other organizations and discussed their participation in the Let's Read America Pavilion I on Oct. 4 at the 2003 National Book Festival. Sixty of the center's 85 reading promotion partners, all nonprofit organizations, displayed materials and discussed their projects in one of the festival's most popular pavilions.

At the March 30 idea exchange, each organization made a brief presentation, often supplemented by materials displayed on the exhibit tables. Sally Anderson, head of the Vermont Center for the Book, made a guest presentation, inviting participation by partners in a new national project being organized by the Vermont center.

Yusef El-Amin

**Jody Libit (left), Center for Summer Reading, and Mary Hirschbiel, Read Aloud International, exchange ideas about new reading and literacy promotion projects.**



Yusef El-Amin

**Lynda Lancaster of First Book gathers materials brought by reading promotion partners for distribution at the Center for the Book's March 30 meeting.**

The Center for the Book's reading promotion partnership group, which includes educational, civic and library organizations, is one of the two partnership networks in the center's long-standing national and international outreach program. The other is the affiliated state center network, which began in 1984 and now includes all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

The reading promotion partners' network formally started in 1987 when the Center for the Book launched "The Year of the Young Reader," its first national reading promotion campaign. Momentum grew through the 1989 "Year of the Young Reader" and 1991 "Year of the Lifetime Reader" campaigns.

The reading and literacy promotion activities of the Center for the Book's organizational partners vary according to each group's purpose, but each has developed a cooperative relationship with the Center for the Book and its continuing program of reading promotion themes and projects. Information about each organization and its projects is available through the Center for the Book's Web site at **www.loc.gov/cfbook**. In addition, the Web site provides up-to-date information about current and forthcoming book and reading promotion projects, such as state book festivals and author awards and "one book" community reading and discussion projects. ◆

*John Y. Cole is director of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.*

Patricia Fisher

Sixty Center for the Book national organizational partners displayed reading promotion materials in the Let's Read America I pavilion at the 2003 National Book Festival. They included (top), the American Library Association, with executive director Keith Michael Fiels (second from left) and Center for the Book Director John Cole (far right); and (below), the National Endowment for the Humanities, with Assistant Chairman for Partnerships and National Affairs Carole Watson (left).

Patricia Fisher

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